

area. This has been previously discussed by the board along with related cost for concrete pad and needs for the bench placement.

- A member initiated a discussion regarding the number of garbage collection companies and the various days they perform their service. It was suggested that the association consider contracting with one provider. A discussion

ensued regarding the practicality of this suggestion with concerns raised about the selection process and collection of fees, among other items.

- It was requested that the board contact the Gleneagle North HOA (GNHOA) about its annual paper shredding event to determine if GCA members can participate. The event

usually occurs at Antelope Trails Elementary School. Streich said he would contact the GNHOA president about it.

The general meeting ended at 7:37 p.m. The board then went into executive session.

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Woodmoor Improvement Association, Feb. 28 and March 27

## Tri-Lakes Women's Club donates defibrillator

By Jackie Burhans

The Woodmoor Improvement Association (WIA) board met on Feb. 28 after the deadline for the March edition of OCN. At that meeting, the board heard about plans to increase safety at Toboggan Hill along with other director reports.

At the March 27 WIA board meeting, representatives from the Tri-Lakes Women's Club (TLWC) gave an automated external defibrillator (AED) to the board. The board also heard concerns from a resident on the placement of a shed on a neighboring property.

### Automated external defibrillator given to WIA

Carol Costakis, Jan McKinley, and Sue Leggiero from the Tri-Lakes Women's Club told about their organization which has existed for over 50 years with a mission to do community service, grant making, and provide educational opportunities for its members and the community. TLWC has given out over \$1 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, schools, and public service agencies. Most recently they have hosted cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) classes. This was motivated by a personal experience where a member's 37-year-old daughter-in-law collapsed and because of the fast work of people who knew CPR and had access to an AED saved her life.

TLWC decided it would offer classes and have trained over 75 members and their spouses in conjunction with Monument Fire District and UC Health. Costakis, McKinley and Leggiero noticed that The Barn did not have an AED and McKinley suggested that TLWC offer one to WIA, which approved the donation. TLWC does a lot of events at The Barn and feels it would be a great way to say thank you to WIA for having them and to give as a gift to the community.

Board President Brian Bush and Woodmoor Public Safety Chief Kevin Nielsen accepted the AED and its case, thanking the TLWC, noting that there are many events at The Barn that would benefit from this donation. McKinley suggested WIA notify the Monument Fire Department so that The Barn is listed as a location with an AED.

### Toboggan Hill safety improvements

Noting that Toboggan Hill is a popular recreational



Above: Members of Tri-Lakes Women's Club (TLWC) presented an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and case to members of the Woodmoor Improvement Association Board of Directors on March 28. TLWC purchased the device to be placed in the Woodmoor Barn to be available to the many groups and individuals who use the building. TLWC recently held a CPR and AED training session for its members at the Barn and recognized the importance of having an AED in this location. From left are, TLWC board member Jan McKinley, WIA President Brian Bush, Kevin Nielsen, chief, Woodmoor Public Safety, and Carol Costakis, TLWC member and organizer of the CPR and AED training. Photo by Sue Leggiero.

sledding hill used by residents and others, Bush said the board decided to take some measures to increase safety. Caution signs have been placed on the hill, trees have been removed and orange fencing has been placed to block certain areas. The goal, he said, is to help sleds avoid contact with solid objects.

### Resident concerns

Resident Jennifer Davis brought up two items that have been addressed by the Architectural Control Committee, but she wanted to make sure were brought to the attention of the board. First, she noted that a neighbor had been approved to build a shed, but Davis felt it was placed in an existing easement and wanted to have it addressed so it would not create a precedent. Davis also said that a neighbor had been doing a major house remodel for over a year and it was causing parking problems and tearing up a common area. She noted that the neighbor had been granted waivers to allow construction equipment on a trail without notification

to nearby residents, and with extensions to their timeline.

Bush said the suggestion to notify affected neighbors when WIA grants a variance was very reasonable. He also noted that WIA has a restoration agreement that any damage will be rectified. He suggested Davis or her neighbors could call WPS for help with parking issues. As to the shed being in an easement, Bush said he isn't certain that she is correct, but that he also didn't think it was reasonable to ask someone to move a shed that had been approved for over a year by WIA. Bush said he would confirm the situation and let her know the result and what steps the board decides to take.

### Board highlights

- Board member Steve Cutler announced that WIA staff received a noxious weed spraying grant which is needed primarily at the South Woodmoor Preserve common area. WIA is working with adjacent neighbors to ensure they also address noxious weeds.
- Board member Cindy Thrush noted that chipping days have been set for June 29-30 and July 27-28 at Lewis-Palmer High School. Chipping is free to residents and open to non-residents for a nominal fee.
- Bush reported that WIA would gather information from its sub-HOAs on dues and insurance status and bring it back so the board would have that information.
- Nielsen said that he has heard no reports of bears but it is spring and residents should keep trash cans, barbecue grills, and pet food inside a closed garage.

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The WIA Board of Directors usually meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Barn at 1691 Woodmoor Drive, Monument. The next meeting will be on April 24.

The WIA calendar can be found at [www.woodmoor.org/wia-calendar/](http://www.woodmoor.org/wia-calendar/). WIA board meeting minutes can be found at [www.woodmoor.org/meeting-minutes/](http://www.woodmoor.org/meeting-minutes/) once approved and posted.

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## March Weather Wrap

By Bill Kappel

March this year had its usual swings between winter and spring and was of course punctuated by a major snowstorm during the middle of the month. Temperatures were a little below average overall, but there were no real cold or warm periods. Precipitation and snowfall were above average again, which is good news because moisture during this time of the year is critical for the start of the growing season. After a slow start to the snowfall this season, we have managed to put three months in a row of above normal snowfall, bringing our seasonal total to above average and we still have another month or so of good snowfall potential.

The month started off mild, with highs reaching the upper 50s to low 60s, about 15-20 degrees warmer than normal for the start of March. This was interrupted by a quick-moving cold front that brought a dusting of snow and cooler temperatures on the 3rd and 4th. After a couple of dry days, another cold front moved in bringing a couple days of unsettled conditions. This produced a couple inches of snowfall along with a few rumbles of thunder on the 8th. This was our first sign of the changing seasons as we begin to see more convective activity in the atmosphere.

Quiet and mild conditions then moved back in over the next several days as the atmosphere began to build up moisture and energy ahead of an anomalously strong and unsettled pattern that would bring significant impacts to the region during the second week of the month.

This next storm was a combination of several unusual factors that normally don't all come together at once over our region. First was a cold upper-level area of low pressure moving out of the Pacific Northwest and dropping south along the Intermountain West. At the same time, low-level wind fields began to draw in moisture from the southeast out of the Gulf of Mexico. And finally, a cold front began to slide down the Front Range of the Rockies. This combination of factors set the stage for a widespread, heavy snow event across the region.

The area of upper-level low pressure cut off from the main flows sat over northern Arizona/Southern Utah for several days, sending several waves of energy over the region to help enhance lift. This made very efficient work of the moisture that moved in from the Gulf of Mexico, and cold air ensured snow for the Palmer Divide. The first signs of the storm began during the late afternoon of the 13th, with scattered snow showers. Snow began to fall heavily later that evening, with several inches accumulating

before midnight. Temperatures continued to cool as well, and winds kicked in. This produced heavy snow and strong winds, with blizzard conditions through the night and into the next morning. Snowfall accumulated at rates of 2-3 inches per hour at times, with over a foot by the time the sun came up on the 14th.

Snow continued through the day and into the night, with another 8-12 inches accumulating before midnight. The storm finally began to wind down the next morning, leaving behind a winter wonderland. Around the Palmer Divide, anywhere from 20-30 inches of snow accumulated, causing travel issues and some fallen trees. But we didn't get the worst of it. In the foothills, 40-60 inches accumulated, making this the largest snowfall since our infamous March 2003 storm. See the photo on page 24.

Of course, the good news with this storm was the beneficial moisture that it left behind, with 2-3 inches of liquid equivalent that slowly melted into the soil over the next couple weeks.

Mostly sunny conditions and quiet weather moved back in from the 16th through the 23rd, and the strong March sun angle began the process of melting the snow a few inches each day. By the time the last storm of the month moved in on the 24th, most of the snowfall from the previous event had melted away. The exceptions were the large drifts and piles in the shaded and forested regions. This final storm was colder than previous storms and produced more wind and blowing snow, but because it was colder it did not have as much moisture to work with. Therefore, only 2-6 inches of new snow fell throughout the region on the 24th and 25th.

Once again, the springtime atmosphere was unstable as well, producing some thundersnow and graupel during the afternoon of the 24th. This was further evidenced by the convective snow showers that developed during the afternoon of the 26th behind the departing storm, very reminiscent of sum-

mer thunderstorms developing over the mountains and moving off the Front Range and over the Palmer Divide, only this time of the year they produce snow instead of rain.

After this last storm departed, mild air and quiet conditions again returned. The month ended with temperatures moving from the 40s to the upper 50s and low 60s along with gusty winds at times.

### A look ahead

April is known for a wide range of weather conditions in the region and is on average our snowiest month of the year. We can see 70° temperatures one afternoon and blizzard conditions the next. Several recent years have seen over 50 inches of snow accumulate during the month. Of course, it also melts very quickly, often adding beneficial moisture to the soil and helping the vegetation, which is just getting started.

### March 2024 Weather Statistics

Average High	47.6° (-4.4°)
100-year return frequency value max	57.9° min 38.0°
Average Low	23.0° (+1.4°)
100-year return frequency value max	27.0° min 12.0°
Highest Temperature	60° on the 2nd
Lowest Temperature	8° on the 28th
Monthly Precipitation	2.35"
	(+0.75", 32% above normal)
100-year return frequency value max	4.29" min 0.22"
Monthly Snowfall	37.9"
	(+17.6", 47% above normal)
Season to Date Snow	127.4"
	(+36.6", 29% above normal)
	(the snow season is from July 1 to June 30)
Season to Date Precip.	5.39"
	(+2.15", 40% above normal)
	(the precip season is from Oct 1 to Sept 30)
Heating Degree Days	922(+9)
Cooling Degree Days	0
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## Letters to Our Community

Guidelines for letters are on page 23.

Disclaimer: The information and opinions expressed in LetterstoOurCommunityaretheresponsibilityoftheletter writers and should not be interpreted as the views of OCN even if the letter writer is an OCN volunteer. The letters are arranged in alphabetical order based on the last name of the author.

### Environmental disaster looming at Colorado Pumpkin Patch?

An estimated 500 cubic yards of finely ground asphalt millings from the surface of public roads are piled up at the Colorado Pumpkin Patch LLC property on 40 acres of residential-zoned land next to Highway 105 west of Highway 83. These asphalt granules contain cancer-causing polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons